

Whittier, CA - Rep. Linda Sánchez helped kicked off a middle school football game yesterday by tossing the pre-game coin. Dexter Middle School's afterschool program, Club Dexter, hosted Rep. Linda Sánchez to show appreciation for over \$238,000 in funding received for the program, which allows Club Dexter to provide students a safe place to get help with homework, play sports, and participate in arts and crafts activities and field trips.

"I am pleased to bring home funds that help out amazing programs like Club Dexter," said Rep. Linda Sánchez. "It's programs like these that make my job as a Member of Congress worthwhile."

The funding also helped the City of Whittier expand other services at the school, including a new sports program for middle school students. Club Dexter is coordinated by the non-profit SKILLS Foundation and features a homework club, intramural sports program, arts and crafts activities, and field trips. In addition, funding has also be used to pay for staffing and online resources at the Whittier Library Homework Center.

Rep. Linda Sánchez spoke to seventh and eighth graders from Dexter Middle School, telling them, "I encourage you to believe in yourself and remember that there are no bounds on what you can do. The school campus and the county line should be no restriction on your dreams. If you want to go to Washington, like me, to help the country, you can. If you want to become a business person who travels overseas or join NASA and travel to space, you can."

In Congress, Rep. Sánchez has launched her "Safe Kids Initiative," a series of bills designed to keep kids safe in the schoolyard and online, and making sure all kids have access to counselors, psychologists, and social workers.